

## STATE BUILDING CODE INTERPRETATION NO. I-30-99

June 22, 1999

The following is offered in response to your request for a formal interpretation of Section 1017.4.5, Item 6 of the BOCA National Building Code/1996 portion of the 1999 State Building Code. You ask the following question:

**Question:** If an electro-magnetic lock and card reader are used on the front entrance door to an office building, does item 6 of Section 1017.4.5 mean that the mag-lock can't be locked while the building is open to the public?

**Answer:** Yes. In order for the entrance doors in a means of egress in buildings with an occupancy of use Groups A, B, E, M, R-1 or R-2 to be equipped with an approved entrance and egress access control system, all six conditions listed in Section 1017.4.5 must be met. Condition six clearly states that in buildings of Use Group A, B, E, or M, which includes an office building as Use Group B, the entrance doors shall not be secured from the egress side during periods that the building is open to the general public. The existence of the release mechanisms specified in items one through five does not provide relief from the requirement to have the entrance doors unsecured from the egress side when the building is opened to the general public.